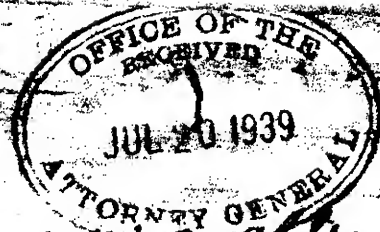


SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

7-19-39



Dear Sir

Seymour Weiss left N.O. after return of Federal indictment to meet Ralph Kety New York later man who has helped to trace either disposal of the property stolen from Shueflang trust box or conceal it. It was rumored that these bought into the chain of hotels controlled by Kety shortly after Long's death and used the bonds of the Roosevelt Hotel and cash stolen from trust box as means of purchase.

It is understood that Max Steiner of New York is the attorney in these matters, and of bonds and money stolen not as yet used is likely to be in State Safe or else by bank.

Illustrating the feeling shown for your good work and that your department, I can only cite you to an incident that occurred shortly after church, narrated by a wonderful citizen of our community who said "Thank God for Frank Murphy".

Long the governor who is a puppet equally guilty with the others in so far as they would let him participate conspired with Marston the brother who to appoint to succeed Laboratory place no confidence in Long or any of Marston's clique. Madame mayor throughout his announcement for the governorship. He is suspected by people here of taking M.P. & labor and materials to build his camp at Lake Austin.

The whole crowd are there and has practically bankrupted the state. The lot are run by Marston and others as run direct from mills by pipe lines to Shreveport or Texas car and banking connections. No paid off yet to report it. These Towers have shipped the Harbor Master should have some files. The R.R. would store Texas car shipments to Ken Jones Murphy Washington D.C.

32509-16  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
TWO

Kennedy  
New Orleans  
7/24/39

COPY (enr)

SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

7/19 -39

Dear Sirs

Raymond Weiss left N.Y. after return of Federal indictment to meet Ralph Hitz New York Hotel man who has helped Weiss dispose of the property stolen from Huey Long Trust box or conceal it. It was rumored that Weiss bought into the chain of hotels controlled by Hitz shortly after Long's death and used the bonds of the Huey Long hotel and cash stolen from trust box as means of purchase.

It is understood that Max Stein of New York is the attorney in these matters, and if bonus and money stolen not as yet used is likely to be in Hotel safe or close by bank.

Illustrating the feeling shown for your good work and that of your department, I can only cite you to an incident that occurred shortly after church, voiced by a wonderful citizen of our community who said "thank God for Frank Murphy."

Long the governor who is a puppet equally guilty with the others in so far as they would let him participate consulted with Marstu who told him who to appoint to succeed Abernathy.

Place no confidence in Long or any of Marstus clique. Caldwell, Mayor Shreveport has announced for the governorship. He is suspicioned by people here of taking W.F.A. labor and materials to build his camp at Lake Bistenan.

The whole crowd are thieves and have practically bankrupted the state.

CO 1 (gar)

The hot oil run by Marstu and others was run direct from wells by pipe lines to either trucks or tank cars and Banking Conservation Commission was paid off not to report it. These tankers were shipped the Harbor Master should have some files. The R.R. would show tank car shipments.

To Hon. Frank Murphy  
Washington, D. C.

American

ACH'VEM

62-32409

AUGUST 1, 1939

RECORDED

Mr. Maxile Savoy  
R. F. D. #1, Box 80  
Bumice, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Savoy:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated July 17, 1939, addressed to Honorable Frank Murphy, United States Attorney General, which letter has been referred to this Bureau for appropriate attention.

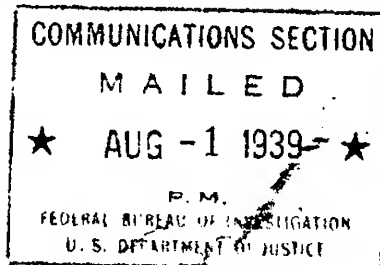
I wish to advise that I have carefully perused the contents of your letter, and fail to find therein any violation within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau. I would suggest you may be desirous of furnishing the information in your possession relevant to the conditions of which it complains direct to the United States Attorney, Mr. Rene A. Viosca, New Orleans, Louisiana.

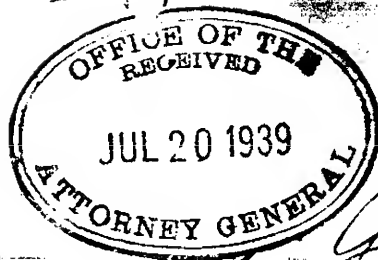
Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

cc-New Orleans

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Crowl \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Lawler \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. McIntire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sears \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Q. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_





Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Nathan	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Crowl	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Lawler	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

Enrico,  
July 17 1939.  
Honorable Frank Murphy  
U. S. Attorney General  
Dear Sir - We the poorest  
citizen and taxpayer of Louisiana  
are looking up to the federal  
government and your office for relief from  
abuse & crookedness in our  
state government. We are to  
the point where an honest man  
will not seek ~~and~~ an office.  
On account that he can not  
have a fair election.

RECORDED & INDEXED  
62-32509-161  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JUL 21 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
TAMM TWO  
In our parish of St. Landry  
we have our district attorney, through  
ment, an elected officer, and is  
qualified by legislative act. As  
trust to the wish of the people. I  
think we would need a federal  
investigation in our parish. There  
is quite a bit of federal money spent  
here.

We have a sheriff in our parish



that take Negroes prisoners from  
the Jail in the parish, to ~~do~~ private work  
on his own property, have deputies  
from his office, to guard of them  
while they work. Now if it possible  
please advise me if it lawful  
or not, I was born and raised in  
this parish and state, I love and  
cherish, our liberty, but I think I  
see a greater menace to our liberty.

I hope and pray that the blood  
of our fore father, was not shed  
in vain.

I Am  
Yours Truly  
Matilda Savoy  
Eunice, La.  
R. F. S. Vol. 1 by 80

C O P Y (gmr)

Eunice, La.  
July 17, 1939

Honorable Frank Murphy  
U. S. Attorney General

Dear Sir:

We the Honest citizen and Taxpayer of Louisiana are looking up to the Federal government and your office for relief from abuse & crookedness in our state government. We are to the point where an honest man will not seek an office, on account that he can not have a fair election. In our parish of St. Landing we have our district Judge and district attorney, through appointment, our elected officer were disqualified by legislative and contrary to the wish of the people. I think we would need a federal investigation in our parish. There is quite a bit of federal monies spent here.

We have a sheriff in our parish that took negroes prisoner's from the jail in the parish, to do private work on his own property, have deputies from his office, to guard of them while they work. Now if it possible please advise me of it lawful or not, I was born and raise in this parish and state, I love and cherish our liberty, but I think I see a great menace to our liberty. I hope and pray that the blood of our fore father was not shed in vain.

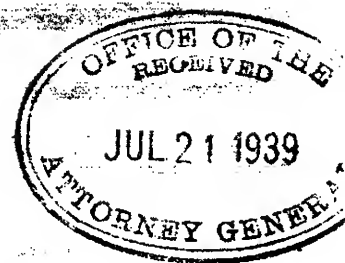
I am

Yours truly

S/ Maxile Savoy

Eunice, La.  
P.F.F. #1 tx 80

63



New Orleans, La.

July 18, 1939

Hon. Frank Murphy,  
United States Attorney General,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Your attention is directed to the enclosed  
article that appeared in the Times-Picayune  
today.

This type of person ought to be removed  
from public office, for his activities and  
reputation are not in keeping with the  
dignity of his station.

Yours very truly,

ANONYMOUS

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

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62-32509

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUL 21 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

64



PERSONAL

HON. FRANK MURPHY,  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.



65

July 14, 1935

# NEW ORLEANS STATES

(Founded January 3, 1899)

Issued Every Week-Day Evening

JAMES E. CROWN, Editor

TELEPHONE STATES EXCHANGE  
RAYMOND 1321

SUBSCRIPTION RATES EFFECTIVE FEB. 1, 1935

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## MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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The New Orleans States is an afternoon newspaper. It prints the news impartially. It supports what it believes to be right. It opposes what it believes to be wrong, without regard to party politics.

## Mr. Pratt and Politics

"FORGET POLITICS and band together to lead the city out of its lethargy."

This was the highlight of a talk made by A. Miles Pratt before the Young Men's Business Club at its meeting Wednesday.

Just why Mr. Pratt should advise anyone to forget politics is beyond us. If there is any one subject with which Mr. Pratt is well acquainted and to which he has devoted his time, intelligence and energy, and with all the ramifications of which he has become intimately acquainted, it is politics.

All New Orleans remembers that T. Semmes Walmsley, former mayor, in his first campaign insisted that Mr. Pratt be placed on his ticket for the commission council. Old Regular leaders opposed Mr. Walmsley's choice, but he was adamant, and Mr. Pratt went in with the ticket. The second time when Mr. Walmsley ran, he again insisted that Mr. Pratt be one of his running mates.

When the then Senator Huey P. Long decided to make grass grow in the streets of New Orleans, when he said he would crush this city as a worm under his heel, Mr. Walmsley, then mayor, stood up and fought him.

His fight might have been successful but for the desertion (some lowbrow persons have another name for it) of some of his allies, among whom was A. Miles Pratt. He helped to deliver the city, lock, stock and barrel, into the hands of Huey P. Long; and it is just now that the city is recovering from that reign of terror.

Later, Mr. Pratt, after the Walmsley ouster, was said to have been considered by some for the mayoralty job; but the administration forces decided to make him collector of customs, rather a nifty little position, or job if you choose to call it that.

Mr. Pratt is also a member of the board of supervisors of Louisiana State university. During his occupancy of that position, along with other gentlemen, Dr. James Monroe Smith, now in jail, is accused of running riot in the wheat market with Louisiana State university funds. Other funds have been squandered, in buildings which have cost far above their actual value, in numerous private homes which are said to have been built with the aid of university labor and materials—in fact, 'most everything which hasn't been nailed down has been moved about, and even this class of material is said to have been shifted, in some instances, by crowbar power. No one accuses the board of supervisors of taking part in this orgy; but the gentlemen of the board have at least been guilty of inefficiency, negligence and a general don't-care attitude.

Those who love this great old university, who believe in its traditions, who believe in its actualities, know that the only way to replace it on the pedestal which it once occupied is to clean out those who would drag it down. And still Mr. Pratt tells us to forget politics.

...and crooks have fattened on the tax monies of the people of Louisiana. Business has been driven from New Orleans and the state, millions of business have been driven from New Orleans and other localities. This has occurred because Louisianians have forgotten politics. A favored few in business have gained others have been penalized.

Mr. Pratt should know, along with thousands of our citizens, that some of our schools have been politicalized, that needy men have had to pay to hold their jobs, that the firemen and policemen of this city, underpaid as they are, have been kept out of the monies legally coming to them because some of those in political power have been afraid to act. Mr. Pratt should know all this, because he has been a member of the commission council, because he has been on the inside of those directing the affairs of this city.

Mr. Pratt says for us "to band together, to lead the city out of its lethargy."

We say to him, we are ready. We are ready to follow the leadership of such young men who wrote the letter in the adjoining column signed "Fed Up."

It is time the world knew that the business men of New Orleans are not afraid of crooked politicians and blustering dictators.

It is time Mr. Pratt knew that the world is knocking at our door, ready to enter, and bring its gifts when we clean house and re-member politics.

The press of America today is hailing Louisiana for its step forward in trying to unmask the political crooks that have denuded it of its jewels. Not all our thieves have been big thieves, Mr. Pratt. Some of them have been petty larceny thieves. They have overlooked nothing.

And so we say again to you, Mr. Pratt—when you tell us to forget politics, unknowingly, perhaps, you are telling us to go to sleep on our rights, to become cowards, to become unconscious of the connivings and machinations of the politicians.

At the foot of Canal street, Mr. Pratt, within sight of your Custom House windows, is a monument erected to men who did not forget politics.

66

## Should Be Ousted

NEW ORLEANS ALUMNI and former students of Louisiana State university last night joined other alumni groups in the state in demanding depoliticalization of the university. The locals endorsed the speech of Tom Button of July 3 requesting a full reorganization of the board and the immediate removal of all political elements. Some alumni groups, notably the one at Clinton, have demanded the resignation of all the old board.

The members of the present board are not accused of any crimes against the university. But crimes have been committed through their laxities, through their failure to do the job of supervising their office called for. This is ground enough for the removal of the entire old board, two members of which have already resigned and one of the two is under fire from another quarter.

The university deserves a new deal, a square deal and an honest deal. There is no reason to expect that this great institution can receive it from the old board, steeped in politics as it has been shown to be. It has been more than a month since first printing in the New Orleans States of the photos showing use of the university's truck in the delivery of building material, processed in the university's carpentry shop, at the residence of Colonel James McLachlan in Metairie. The board has subsequently held several meetings. It has not cleared up this instance of political use of the university. So far as information goes, it has not even taken a step in that direction. Yet the episode shocked the people

of the state—the public as well as the alumni.

So far as available information indicates, the board is making no effort to free the university of political manipulation. There are weak spots in its business staff and in its faculty. One official of notorious political activity, whose ability to accumulate votes in some precincts was proudly acclaimed by a former governor whose own affairs are now receiving investigative attention, continues to enjoy his lucrative salary.

How would the old board attempt to explain its deficiencies in these matters? How would it attempt to explain its deficiencies in the matter of the \$500,000 geological building, mysteriously financed, mysteriously equipped and furnished by sub-rosa arrangement with a business concern in which a member of the board of supervisors was a substantial stockholder?

The simple proposition is that the old board cannot clean up the university of its political entanglements without piling up new evidence of its own gross negligence. For the good of this great institution, with its admirable educational record spanning more than three-quarters of a century, its greater promise for the future, all of the old supervisors should step out and permit full reorganization by a new board chosen from among the alumni.

THE FEEVISH Doctor O'Hair

But in 1917. During the year the pernicious extortion has been practiced, some millions of dollars have been collected and disbursed, presumably "disturbed." All of it was extracted, under duress, from taxpayers, wage-earning taxpayers who work for government and who were compelled to pay 3 per cent, sometimes 10 per cent, of their salaries, or else."

Who received these millions of dollars of wage-earning taxpayers' money? For some years the association has had no need of "campaign" funds. The state machine by means of its control of the casting and the counting of ballots, its facilities for stuffing the boxes or padding the registration, and its command over the battalions of public employes, could declare itself victor in any election by any majority it chose to set, without the expenditure of a dollar. Then who got the millions of "de-duct" dollars?

Why is Dr. O'Hara willing to bare all secrets of "de-ducts" to the federal authorities but not to the people of Louisiana? The answer suggests itself. There is at present no state power able or willing to command the information which gives security to defiance. But if the federal government wants it, the association has no choice but to comply, and defiance becomes respect.

If the association's "explanation of disbursements" given the federal government, it is hoped, will satisfy the conditions required.

"associative"



## VIEWS of STATES READERS

(Communications should be courteous and brief, preferably 200 words or less. Letters must be signed but name will be omitted from publication if so requested.)

### 'Forgetting' Politics

New Orleans, July 11

Editor, New Orleans States:

"New Orleans business men must 'forget politics'!"

According to press accounts this is the tenor of the message brought to the young men of the Young Men's Business Club by A. M. Pratt, collector of customs of the port of New Orleans and a member of the now famous board of supervisors of Louisiana State University.

That is exactly what New Orleans business men and particularly the young men must NOT do, although it is very easy to understand why some of our more or less prominent citizens might most ardently desire that it should.

Although many might, and forsooth with some reason, doubt its actuality, Louisiana is still operating at least under the framework of democracy. The essence of democracy is "government of the people, for the people and by the people." We the people are and must continue to be the final source of all authority. Public officials, politicians if you will, are our servants. They are employed by us to serve us and for no other purpose. They must render an accounting of their stewardship to us—a frank, honest and complete report. If they do not choose to do so of their own free will they must be made to do so.

According to the press reports, Mr. Pratt refers to what he calls the "lethargy" of our citizens. The fruits of that lethargy, if there is such a thing, are now only too apparent. Perchance this so-called lethargy was not much the result of lack of energy as of lack of courage. It takes a brave man, indeed, to act when he well knows, in advance, that the price of his action may be calamity—and not always to himself alone.

Among certain unfortunate peoples there has sprung up of late a so-called new theory of government. It is assumed that the people do not know how to govern themselves. They are incapable. They must follow "the leader," usually self-appointed, and do whatsoever he may dictate. "Theirs not to reason why, theirs not to make reply. Theirs but to obey and die."

Have we, citizens of New Orleans and Louisiana, come to that?

Must we forget politics?

Shall we allow politicians to forget their solemn obligations to decency, to morality, and to us?

The fires have been lighted. In their bright glow we now see many things. The business man, the self-respecting citizen and the politician, with the grave responsibility of raising a family in this community owes it to himself, to his family and to his community not to "forget politics" until the fires shall have spread to every darkened corner of the state and revealed the truth. True, the heat may scorch many, but heat is the great purifier.

Politics must not be forgotten.

FED UP.

### Some More Questions

New Orleans, July 11

Editor, New Orleans States:

We notice the federal authorities are going to investigate the contracts for the erection of Charity hospital.

What the people of Louisiana would like to know is what was actually done to the four contracts—not what was specified?

What became of the old Charity hospital?

Why are not some of New Orleans' very practical big building constructors asked the opinion about the new Charity hospital construction?

How much did they pay the big New York sign company for making the big signs around the hospital—with plenty of Louisiana sign painters on relief?

How does the state of Louisiana obtain dollar for dollar matching for \$487,000 for old age assistance, \$312,000 for the children and \$87,000 for the blind? And what length of time does that cover?

Up to now all the wrongdoing has been covered by accident. Why have any investigations at all.

REX

### Heads Hang in Shame

New Orleans, July 11

Editor, New Orleans States:

Every resident of Louisiana must hang in shame over the present political scandals in his state, and hang his head with shame should one review, as I have done, the almost unbroken chain of political scandals in Louisiana dating back to 1763 involving the French, the Spaniards and Americans.

It is to be hoped the present mess will be completely cleared up—L. S. U., "de-bunked," rackets and all the others.

But what is vastly more important, it is to be hoped that enough indignation throughout the state will be aroused to result in a new system under which public officials will all honestly perform the duties for which they are paid.

CITIZEN

### Victim of 'De-Ducts'

New Orleans, July 11

Editor, New Orleans States:

The honest people of this city and state are more than grateful to the States and Times-Picayune for the great work they are now doing.

A friend has been employed in this work for some years and because of her industry has been advanced from time to time to office in which she now works in the city of Baton Rouge and as far back as five years she each month has had to give up five dollars of her salary.

Refusing to name the treasurer of the fund or how it is spent seems ridiculous. It must be some means of making them all rich.

Wishing you all success in this great work I remain

E. THOMPSON

### Notable Quotations

Youth is the proper time for love, and age is virtue's season.

—George Granville, Corin

JFS:DE

July 25, 1939

62-32509-199

RECORDED

## MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL ROGGE

For your information I am setting forth herein the resolution adopted by the Exchange Club of New Orleans, Louisiana, which was received in the Department on July 21, 1939, and forwarded to this Bureau for appropriate attention.

**WHEREAS** The Exchange Club of New Orleans is a service Club comprised of leading business and professional men, and is affiliated with the National Exchange Club, and

**WHEREAS** The Exchange Club of New Orleans has been made aware of the misuse of Federal and State funds, the corruption of certain public officials, and the diversion of public money to private use, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** that it is the opinion of the Exchange Club of New Orleans that the United States Government should vigorously and impartially continue and enlarge its present investigation of all branches of the State government wherever violations of Federal laws are involved, and that all persons responsible for such violations be speedily and vigorously prosecuted, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Exchange Club of New Orleans will lend its full cooperation and support to such investigation and prosecution, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of these resolutions be sent to Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States, and to Frank J. Murphy, Attorney General of the United States,

THE EXCHANGE CLUB OF NEW ORLEANS

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED

★ JUL 26 1939 ★

P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

s/ Lyman C. Reed, Pres.

s/ Walter Utley, Secty."

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Crowl \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Lawler \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. McIntire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sears \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Q. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

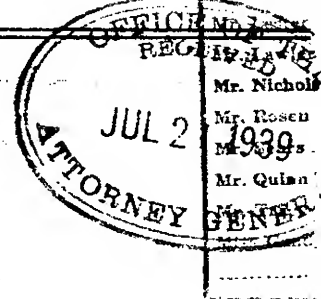
July 18, 1939

JFS

170



# The Exchange Club of New Orleans



Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Nathan  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Crowl  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease

WHEREAS The Exchange Club of New Orleans is a service Club comprised of leading business and professional men, and is affiliated with the National Exchange Club, and

WHEREAS The Exchange Club of New Orleans has been made aware of the misuse of Federal and State funds, the corruption of certain public officials, and the diversion of public money to private use, therefore

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of these resolutions be sent to Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States, and to Frank J. Murphy, Attorney General of the United States.

July 18, 1939

THE EXCHANGE CLUB OF NEW ORLEANS

Per: Lyman C. Reed, Pres.

Waldo Utley, Secy. 159

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-3251  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUL 21 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*Copy made by 7-25-39*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

7-24 1939

\_\_\_ The Director  
\_\_\_ Mr. Nathan  
\_\_\_ Mr. Tolson  
\_\_\_ Mr. Clegg  
\_\_\_ Mr. Glavin  
\_\_\_ Mr. Nichols  
\_\_\_ Mr. Crowl  
\_\_\_ Mr. Tracy

\_\_\_ Files Section  
\_\_\_ Personnel Files  
\_\_\_ Identification Division  
\_\_\_ Technical Laboratory  
\_\_\_ Mechanical Section  
\_\_\_ Chief Clerk's Office  
\_\_\_ Crime Statistics

SUPERVISORS

\_\_\_ Mr. Balch  
\_\_\_ Mr. Bellino  
\_\_\_ Mr. Bickley  
\_\_\_ Mr. Brennan  
\_\_\_ Mr. Carson  
\_\_\_ Mr. Chambers

\_\_\_ Mr. Cornelius  
\_\_\_ Mr. Guerin  
\_\_\_ Mr. Hayden  
\_\_\_ Mr. Hogan  
\_\_\_ Mr. Kimball  
\_\_\_ Mr. Kramer

\_\_\_ Mr. Lawler  
\_\_\_ Mr. McIntire  
\_\_\_ Mr. Pennington  
\_\_\_ Mr. Rosen  
\_\_\_ Mr. Sears  
\_\_\_ Mr. Zimmer

\* \* \*

\_\_\_ Miss Gandy  
\_\_\_ Mr. West  
\_\_\_ Mrs. Morton  
\_\_\_ Miss Coe  
\_\_\_ Mr. Albaugh  
\_\_\_ Mr. Halter  
\_\_\_ Miss Conlon  
\_\_\_ Miss Friedman  
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\_\_\_ Stenographers 5730  
\_\_\_ Stenographers 5706  
\_\_\_ Prepare tickler for

*Send this to  
Rogge for appropriate  
consideration*

To the Hon. Frank Murphy  
Attorney General United States  
Washington D.C.

Very good sir; - 1st New York

This writer is a sufferer of arterio sclerotic heart disease and also has been given overdoses of the X-ray treatments which has disfigured my face... I've tried in vain to receive aid thru the welfare office of N.O. I know it to be a fact that they have given every intelligent person who has went to their office the run around... I have tried to obtain relief since September 1938. I have now after an X-ray picture been from to have the disease stated... The office of this city's welfare has been in the hands of political plunderers... They have made allotments to the worse kind of prostitutes as a lot of political gangsters - seen that their friends - were compensated as to rent. If you had ever been in this city and traveled by the way of the Vieux Carré - or cany - Carougelet - magazine - Baronne Sts on the the upper side of its city - you could then realise how in fact the government funds are being allotted - by its allowance it needs no punctuation marks - but dashes - so I go to a good Irishman as you are for redemption. President Roosevelt once said "no one shall starve" He surely never knew the political set up of New Orleans when he uttered those words... As for foolish - you can't give or write foolish about such shysters... I want you to get in correspondence with St. Belair Fisher and have it proved as to the words I have written here, in the matter of my health, I am marked as an unemployable, have been put out of my room - because I was unable to pay the rent. I am begging on the streets for food - I am laying my poor weak body on the city's pier at the river front for a bed. All because I gave my body to Science and they overdosed me with 32 X-ray treatments. I beg for you as a good government official to see that these wrongs are righted. I am making this fight individually... With no accents or trimmings. Yours in God the light.  
I am - Robert Read, c/o Gen - Del - as I have no home

A. R. JOHNSON  
STATE COMMISSIONER

ORLEANS PARISH  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE  
2528 SOUTH CARROLLTON AVE.

RICHARD R. FOSTER  
PARISH DIRECTOR

BOARD

WILLIAM J. GUSTE, CHAIRMAN  
THEODORE H. BERNHART  
JOSEPH M. COUSINS  
LOUIS C. LESAGE  
ROBT. S. MAESTRI  
HERBERT J. SCHWARTZ  
LEON G. TUJAGUE

July 11, 1939

*P's. I have been put out of this  
address as denoted within epistle.*

Mr. Robert Reed  
1063 Camp Street  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Reed:

We have received the necessary information for your case  
and have placed your application in our pending file. We can-  
not offer you immediate help due to allocation of funds but  
when more funds are available, your case will be given further  
consideration.

Yours truly,

*Dorothy Robins*  
(Mrs.) Dorothy Robins  
Interviewer

DR:rc

*Drs Bell and Fisher are stationed  
at Charity Hospital. New Orleans.*

*Please answer right away as to what you will  
do.*

RECEIVED  
DIVISION ONE  
JUL 12 11 44 AM '39  
JUL 22 10 19 AM '39

JUL 12 11 44 AM '39  
JUL 22 10 19 AM '39

74

C O P Y 12

To the Hon. Frank Murphy  
Attorney General United States  
Washington, D. C.

Very good sir:

This writer is a sufferer of arterio sclerotic heart disease and also has been given over doses of the X ray treatments which has disfigured my face. I've tried in vain to receive aid thru the welfare office of N.O. I know it to be a fact that they have given every intelligent person who has went to their office the run around. I have tried to obtain relief since September 1938. I have now after an X ray picture been proved to have the disease stated. The office of this city's welfare has been in the hands of political plunderers. They have made allotments to the worse kind of prostitutes so a lot of political gangsters - seen that their friends - were compensated as to rent. If you had ever been in this city and traveled by the way of Vieux Carre - of Camp Carondelet - Magazine - Bayonne Sts. on the upper side of its city - you could then realise how in part the government funds are being allotted - by its allowance it needs no punctuation marks - but dashes - so I go to a good Irishman as you are for redemption. President Roosevelt once said "no one shall starve". He surely never new the political set up of New Orleans when he uttered those words. As for polish - you can't give or write polish about such shysters. I want you to get in correspondence with Dr. Bell are Fisher and have it proved as to the words I have written here, in the matter of my health. I am marked as an unemployable, have been put out of my room - because I was unable to pay the rent.

C O P Y (gar)

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weak body on the city's pier at the river front for a bed.

All because I gave my body to science and they overdosed me  
in 1922 and 32 with X ray treatments. I beg for you as a  
good government official to see that these wrongs are righted.  
I am making this fight individually. With no accents or  
trimmings. Yours in God the light.

I am - Robert Reed,

% Genl. Del. as I have no home.



TELEPHONE 88

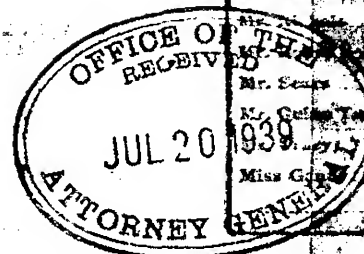
# ACADIA MACHINE WORKS

**ENGINE, BOILER AND PUMP REPAIRING,  
PORTABLE ELECTRIC & OXO -- WELDING**

**CROWLEY, LOUISIANA**

July 18, 1939

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Nathan  
**MILL SUPPLIES**  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Nease  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Pennington



U. S. Attorney-General Frank Murphy  
Washington  
District of Columbia

Dear Sir:

we have a request to make of you. I know that most of the people of the state of Louisiana want a thorough house cleaning. I also know that if some method was placed in their way they would ask for it. What I would like to know is if there is some federal law under which the people themselves could have this investigation. You know and I know that the state officials will not press their own crowd to the limit; this is the reason I am appealing direct to you for advice. The time to strike is when the iron is hot as you know.

trusting this is not asking too much of you.

1 am

Yours very truly,

Frank M. Atwood

8/16/39

Set. N. 6

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RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

62 3250 9-1  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JUL 21 1962  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
MAIL ROOM

17

DO-5

DIRECTOR  
OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Lawler \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Lester \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sears \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Q. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Schildecker \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Record of Telephone Call or Visitor.

415 July 17, 1939.

Time 10:55 AM

Name Mr. Shivers, tele from  
New Orleans.

Referred to \_\_\_\_\_

Details:

Stated that Mr. Rogge had come to the office this morning and had called the A.G.; that Mr. Rogge in his conversation with the A.G. had stated that he wanted to return the indictments today; that the A.G. had said no since there was a question in the mind of the A.G. that the acts constituted a mail fraud. Mr. Shivers stated that the A.G. had transferred Mr. Rogge to Mr. Hugh Fisher in the Department; that Mr. Rogge asked Mr. Fisher to let him have an opinion within an hour as to whether or not the facts constituted a mail fraud and whether the Government could make a case or not. Mr. Shivers stated that he thought that the Director would want to know about this.

FILED IN 62-32509-156

RECORDED

62-32509-156  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JUL 18 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
TAMM TWO

78

# The Times-Picayune

ESTABLISHED 1837  
ISSUED EVERY WEEK-DAY MORNING  
The Times-Picayune Publishing Co.  
L. K. NICHOLSON, President  
515 North Street New Orleans

Telephone Raymond 722  
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES EFFECTIVE FEB. 7, 1934, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE IN CITIES AND TOWNS CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES DAILY AND SUNDAY

	By Mail La. & Miss. By Cities & Carriers Towns	By Mail Other States	By Mail Foreign Countries
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One Month .....	1.10	\$ 1.10	\$ 4.30
Three Months .....	3.25	3.25	11.25
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One Month .....	.75	\$ .75	\$ 2.40
Three Months .....	2.25	2.25	6.45
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Twelve Months .....	8.85	8.85	21.35
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Twelve Months .....	\$ 5.20	\$ 4.50	\$ 5.50
SUNDAY ONLY			
METROPOLITAN NEW ORLEANS			
Twelve Months .....	\$ 5.00		
RURAL FREE DELIVERY ONLY			
Louisiana and Mississippi			
BY MAIL DAILY ONLY			
Six Months .....			\$4.00
Twelve Months .....			6.00

NEW ORLEANS, JULY 14

## History in the Making

ONE YEAR AGO TODAY the Howard Hughes globe-girdlers completed a 14,828-mile circuit after 91 hours and 14 minutes. Twenty persons perished when an Italian air liner crashed into the sea off Sardinia. Fascist university professors declared the Italian people were of Aryan origin.

FIVE YEARS AGO TODAY former Lieutenant-Commander Farnsworth was arrested in Washington charged with selling navy data to Japan. The nation's heat wave total reached 2996. Scores were injured in Bastille Day fighting on the Champs Elysees, Paris.

FIVE YEARS AGO TODAY Acting Mayor Pratt signed fiscal agency contracts with four New Orleans banks. The NFA created an industrial appeals board to "protect small businesses against monopolies."

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY Major Idzikowski was killed and Major Kubala injured as the Polish transatlantic fliers attempted to land on Graciosa Island. Demonstrations of Simon Lake's new submarine hatch for rescue were declared successful at London, Conn. The United Textile

## A Politician's Advice

Before the members of the Young Men's Business Club, at their luncheon meeting Wednesday, Mr. E. M. Pratt advised New Orleans business men to "forget politics and band together to lead the city out of its lethargy." Mr. Pratt deplored the adverse criticism to which Louisiana has been subjected in recent weeks. But he seems to feel that if the business community would only "forget" the politics which caused the malodorous messes festering under the surface of our public affairs, all might be well.

Mr. Pratt has been active in our business organizations. Also, for a good many years, he has been active in our political manipulations. Long on the city pay roll—city commissioner under a municipal regime which was not, to state it mildly, wholly spotless—he left that post to take a federal job as collector of customs, one of the choicest bits of federal political patronage on the local list. Also Mr. Pratt has been and still is a member of the Louisiana State university board under whom the university scandals flourished so amazingly until the exposures of last month. We dare say there are other politically active or politically conscious members of that board who would be glad to have those scandals and their political implications forgotten by business men and everybody else.

It would be interesting to know whether Mr. Pratt speaks as a business man solely—or under the promptings of his interests as a prominent politician—when he appeals to New Orleans business men to "forget politics." Unhappily for Mr. Pratt's case, politics has so "muscle in" on business, here and throughout the state; has burdened it with such inordinately heavy taxes, has so plagued it with favoritism and so bedevilled both the local and state communities with wastes and graft, that neither the business men nor other good citizens can "forget politics."

As a business man without political entanglements, Mr. Pratt might have condemned the vicious political practices that caused the abuses now in process of exposure. But as a politician long on the public pay roll and even now holder of a lucrative political office, Mr. Pratt's desire to have politics forgotten—and his apparent inclination to condemn the exposure of evil conditions rather than the evil conditions themselves—can be readily understood.

We do not believe business men without political sidelines will follow his advice. We do not see how any good citizen of Louisiana in any walk of life can forget the politics which has been preying on them all and has brewed, they now discover, scandal so nauseating and malodorous that nobody can forget them.

## Foreigners 'Out'

(expulsion of for-

77

serve stock any consequence, and efforts should be doubled to expedite cotton and other nonperishable commodities, for most of the necessary metals.

The imports alone in 1914 were \$101,300,000, and those of nickel, \$23,000,000. Imported metals said to be indispensable to the manufacture of steel are chromium, cobalt, tungsten, manganese and vanadium. War abroad would threaten the intake of these supplies and naturally increase their cost. Should the United States become involved, the situation would become precarious as to several of these metals, and production costs would skyrocket.

Surveys show extensive manganese deposits in South Dakota, and the bureau of mines has developed an electrolytic method for the production of the metal. There are tin deposits in the same state and Alaska, and tungsten in the Black Hills. None of these areas has been worked to any extent because of the comparative cheapness of peacetime imports.

The question is whether the United States should take a chance on paying a heavy import price in time of need, or on costly emergency production, rather than lay up reserve supplies now at the normal rate. As T. M. Girdler, steel mill executive, has suggested, the time may come when such supplies would be far more valuable than their equivalent in gold at Fort Knox.

### Cooling Us Off

With three cheers, a salaam and whatever else is necessary, we salute the American Medical Association. Often that organization has stepped on our pet toe (the sore one) and frequently it has uttered long and complicated opinions concerning matters of which we know little and care less. But now that the association has come out with formal approval of ice water, that deserves, in our present opinion, commendation unqualified and as high as the thermometer stands in mid-July.

Taken in large quantities at a meal, ice water probably "slows down gastric digestion for a few minutes," notes the factual statement; but it hastens to add, "this is of little significance." Then, after its fashion, the association's Journal goes on with a discussion of tepid or warm water, a subject we shall take up next January.

The "undeclared war" in China rounded out its second year on July 7 with the casualties exceeding 2,000,000 and the economic cost so appalling that it also goes "undeclared."

From what we read of Danzig, that city must occupy in the Old World a position corresponding somewhat to that of New Orleans, or Baton Rouge, in the New.

The town of Loafers' Glory, N. C., has just celebrated its 60th anniversary—with due glorification, we suppose, of the loafers for whom it presumably was named.

Italy has been expelled by their military government from the Tyrolean province of South Tyrol, and the expulsion order from the Italian foreign office. The government asserts that the expulsions were ordered for political and military reasons. The impression ought to be conveyed is that they are dictated by the military necessity to put the Italian Tyrol in a state of readiness for defense in any emergency. In that province live thousands of Germans and Austrians. German groups have clamored for restoration to the Tyrolean land. Their agitation has been discouraged by the Berlin authorities, but Mussolini has no apparent reason to fear attack upon or seizure of his Tyrolean province by any nation save Germany. Expulsion in peacetime of a few hundred of French, British, Swiss, Dutch and other nationalities will be hard to justify, we suspect, as a military necessity.

If the nations whose citizens are thus summarily expelled should see fit to retaliate, Italians might be the chief sufferers. Italians residing in Switzerland are said greatly to outnumber the Swiss living in Italy. Resort to the natural and logical reprisals would set up new barricades against international travel and friendly communication along the European frontiers and thus add new fuel to the flame of insanity which already menaces European peace and civilization.

### Round the World

Things like the international date line often worry those of us who contemplate a trip around the world. We know, or think we do, that going in one direction is one or two days shorter than if we travel the other way, though it's a rather difficult feat in either event, and doubtless we shall have neither the time nor the money. Yet when somebody else does the thing, we read it and weep, or at least we ponder how we could have bettered the record. However, for the benefit of other arm-chair philosophers, it is just as well to contemplate the fact that actually the girdling of the globe is old stuff and, if done too hurriedly, is likely to skip most of the scenery.

Still, there are folk who like to do it, and think what a kick they get. Norman C. Lee had comments almost as brief as what he must have seen from his airplane seats, but at least he went all the way around, some 24,694 miles, in nine hours less than three weeks. Mr. and Mrs. Albert G. Mott might have tied him on this trip by scheduled planes had they not stopped in New York instead of going on to the Pacific coast. Personally we have figured it out that you could charter a plane flying 250 miles an hour and do the thing, at the equator, in four days and four hours. That is, you could if it weren't for the date line. Or perhaps you could.

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August 16, 1939

RECORDED

62-32509 -155 and 86-1015-48

Special Agent in Charge  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Re: CRIME CONDITIONS - LOUISIANA

Dear Sir:

There are inclosed herewith two photo-  
static copies of an anonymous communication dated  
at Shreveport, Louisiana, July 14, 1939, which  
was received by the Attorney General and referred  
to the Bureau. It is desired that one copy be  
furnished by your office to United States  
Attorney Rene A. Viosca, New Orleans.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Inclosure

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
★ AUG 16 1939 ★  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Crowl \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Lawler \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. McIntire \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Sears \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Q. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

86-1015-48

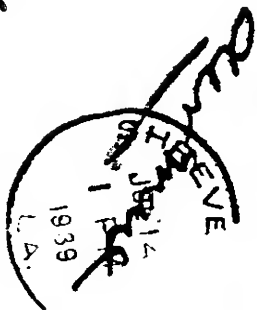
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Hotel  
Gardner

SHREVEPORT, LA.

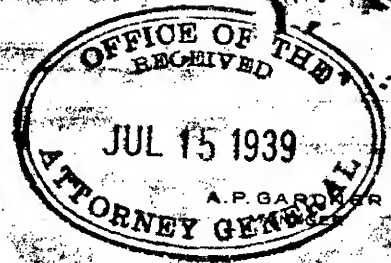


*Reserve*

*Frank Murphy  
atty General  
U.S.C*



CEILING FANS  
CIRCULATING ICE WATER



ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION  
KLEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED

Hotel  
Gardner  
SHREVEPORT, LA.  
62-32509-153  
JUL 14 - JUL 21 1939  
RECORDED  
INDEXED  
U.S.D. TWO

Dear Sir  
The request for a transcript of the  
evidence before Federal Grand Jury No.  
has a result of a conference in the  
Hotel Roosevelt between parties whose names  
I have heretofore given. They are frightened  
when Lang was killed he had a friend  
of attorney making one million in equity  
with Seymour Weiss. An examination by  
Lang's friends showed that in the trust bank  
the money left by Lang showed this and  
Mr. Lang ordered them deluged under  
that his children might not be before  
Weiss got it all. A brother of Weiss Lang  
age Lang a dentist of Oklahoma knew  
It is understood here that Sam Caldwell  
Mayor Shreveport knew his camp  
casting 20000 on Lake Bitterman from  
H.P. Labor and materials 8/16/39 - 7.11.39  
the whole crowd is rotten. You will find  
white slavery, prostitution, narcotics, hot  
oil running, gambling, evildoers in the  
machine. May the Lord guide you  
74 Howard Frank's Murphy American

Department of Justice  
Office of the Assistant to the Attorney General  
Washington

July 20, 1939

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Crowl	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER, DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

There is attached hereto for such consideration as is deemed appropriate an anonymous communication concerning the current situation in Louisiana.

*Matthew F. McGuire*  
Matthew F. McGuire  
Acting Assistant to the Attorney General

8/16/39

S. D. G.  
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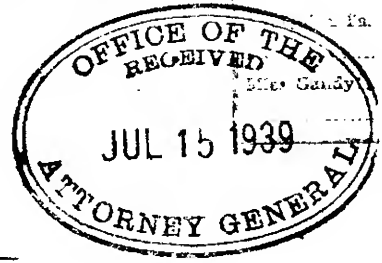
62-32507-154  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 4 1939  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

84

Mr. Tolson...  
 Mr. Nathan...  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm...  
 Mr. Clegg...  
 Mr. Glavin...  
 Mr. Ladd...  
 Mr. Nichols...  
 Mr. Rosen...  
 Mr. Tracy...  
 Mr. Carson...  
 Mr. Egan...  
 Mr. Gurnea...  
 Mr. Harbo...  
 Mr. Hendon...  
 Mr. Pennington...  
 Mr. Quinn...  
 Mr. Nease...  
 Miss Gandy...

New Orleans La  
 July 13, 1939

Hon. Frank Murphy



Dear Sir,

Federal assistants attorneys  
 here are closely alligned with  
 the crooked politicians of this  
 state.

Hesbert Christenberry is a brother  
 to Earl Christenberry who was  
 secretary to the late Huey P. Long.  
 Joseph Shelly Wright is a  
 nephew to Joseph B. Shelly, the  
 first New Orleans commissioner  
 to sell out to the crooked state  
 machine.

RECORDED  
 &  
 INDEXED

62 32509-F

KEEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED

How can we get justice?  
 Investigate and be confident

1 ENCL. C

Yours for justice  
 A New Orleans Schoolg  
 85

W. J. Attorney General's Office

D. C.

Washington

Hon. Frank Murphy  
General



## CREDIT USED

ments of New Orleans  
y expansion in the busi-  
as reflected in the in-  
edit used.

# The Times

63

Issued Every Week-Day Morning at 601-15 North St.  
BY THE TIMES-PICAYUNE PUBLISHING CO.  
Founded January 25, 1837

NEW ORLEANS, THUR

## Federal Investigators Ask Dr. Smith Questions



While East Baton Rouge parish and state officials cooled their heels, United States government officials, including Herbert W. Christenberry (left), assistant United States attorney for the Eastern District of Louisiana, and Arnold Baum, assistant United States attorney-general, were closeted in jail with Dr. James Monroe Smith at Baton Rouge. Results of the interview with the former Louisiana State university president, indicted for embezzlement of \$100,000, were not disclosed.

--Photo by The Times-Picayune.

2-326'09-154

811



C  
O  
P  
Y

New Orleans, La.  
July 13, 1939

Hon. Frank Murphy

Dear Sir:

Federal assistants attorneys here are closely aligned with the crooked politicians of this state.

Herbert Christenberry is a brother to Earl Christenberry who was Secretary to the late Huey P. Long.

Joseph Skelly Wright is a nephew to Joseph P. Skelly, the first New Orleans commissioner to sell out to the crooked state machine.

How can we get justice? Investigate and be convinced.

Yours for justice,

A New Orleans Schoolgirl.

87



CARBON  
COPY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 19 1939

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

FBI NEW ORLEANS 7-19-39 5-06 PM WH

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. AGENTS  
PETROLEUM CONSERVATION UNIT, DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, ESTABLISHING  
HEADQUARTERS NEW ORLEANS TODAY PREPARATORY TO HOT IXXX OIL  
INVESTIGATION. J M BROWN BEFORE FEDERAL GRAND JURY NEW  
ORLEANS RELATIVE BOND TRANSACTIONS JAMES MONROE SMITH. USA  
CONTEMPLATES REQUESTING INVESTIGATION FROM POSTOFFICE INSPECTORS  
RELATIVE TO ALLEGED SIXTY SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLAR  
SHORTAGE OF MONEY IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM  
THE US CONSERVATION COMMISSION TO THE LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
FROM MAIL FRAUD ANGLE.

SACKETT

END

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

OK FBI WASH DC CHCV

69-3267-153X

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 28 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

89

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

EAT:GVC

July 17, 1939

Time: 3:22 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Special Agent Shivers called from New Orleans and informed that Mr. Rogge came in to see him shortly after you had talked to Mr. Shivers. Mr. Rogge told Agent Shivers he was going to have to return the indictments sometime today. He also said he had instructions from the Attorney General not to return them until they were approved by the Attorney General. Mr. Rogge stated that he was thoroughly satisfied with this case and if necessary he would remain in New Orleans and participate in the prosecution. According to Mr. Shivers, Rogge is undoubtedly waiting on word from the Attorney General to authorize him to go ahead and have the indictments returned. Mr. Rogge said the Grand Jury was wanting to return them anyway. Agent Shivers stated that Rogge did not explain why the indictments had to be returned now, and I told him I thought the Attorney General would be interested in knowing the reason for this.

Mr. Shivers said it was his understanding that all the evidence that was had to support the indictment was contained in the summary report sent in by Agent Weeks on July 14th.

Agent Shivers stated that while Mr. Rogge was in the Bureau office, he, Rogge, received a telephone call from Tommy Corcoran with reference to the replacement of Hilary J. Smith as Assistant United States Attorney and during the conversation Rogge told Corcoran the indictments would have to be returned today.

Respectfully,

*E. A. Tamm*  
E. A. TAMM

32-27-153  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JUL 19 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
90

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 13 1939

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

ack

FBI NEW ORLEANS 7-13-39 4-56 PM WH

DIRECTOR

RE LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS, INFORMATION CONCERNING. I HAVE JUST HAD CONFERENCE WITH US ATTORNEY VIOSCA.

THE WPA INVESTIGATORS HAVE NOT SUBMITTED ANY DETAILED REPORTS AND ALL WRITTEN MATTER SUBMITTED BY THEM CONSISTS OF A FEW AFFIDAVITS WHICH THEY OBTAINED. I AM OBTAINING COPIES OF SUCH AFFIDAVITS. PURSUANT TO MY SUGGESTION, AND IN MY PRESENCE, VIOSCA AGAIN TELEPHONICALLY COMMUNICATED WITH PAUL HANSEN, WPA INVESTIGATOR IN CHARGE, AND REQUESTED THAT HANSEN SUBMIT TO HIM IMMEDIATELY COPIES OF ALL REPORTS MADE AND ALSO IN THE FUTURE TO SUBMIT TO VIOSCA TWO COPIES OF EACH AFFIDAVIT OR STATEMENT AS TAKEN BY THE INVESTIGATORS. VIOSCA WILL GIVE ME COPIES.

RECORDED & INDEXED

VIOSCA HAS HAD ABOUT FIFTY PEOPLE BEFORE THE FEDERAL GRAND JURY TO TESTIFY RELATING TO WPA IRREGULARITIES, TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY BEING WRITTEN UP NOW, PURSUANT MY REQUEST, AND I WILL SECURE COPY THEREOF.

FROM WHAT I CAN GATHER NO ONE WPA IRREGULARITY CASE HAS BEEN COMPLETED, AND IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO ASCERTAIN FROM VIOSCA OR ANYONE

91

PAGE TWO

ELSE WHAT EVIDENCE EXISTS WITH RELATION TO ANY SINGLE WPA  
IRREGULARITY CASE.

I DISCUSSED THE INCOME TAX EVASION CASES WITH ARNOLD RAUM  
SPECIAL ASSISTANT, AND THE ASSISTANT US ATTORNEY HANDLING SAME,  
FROM WHICH IT APPEARS THAT THE CASE AGAINST JAMES MONROE SMITH  
IS EXTREMELY WEAK AND QUESTIONABLE.

THE INTERNAL REVENUE AGENTS HAVE NOT SUBMITTED ANY FURTHER REPORTS  
SINCE THE REPORT TWO WEEKS AGO, WHICH WAS GIVEN TO THE ATTORNEY  
GENERAL AND A COPY TO US ATTORNEY VIOSCA. THEY ARE STILL  
INVESTIGATING LECHE, MONTE HART, SMITH, AND OTHERS, BUT THE  
DETAILS OF THEIR INVESTIGATIONS ARE APPARENTLY UNKNOWN TO VIOSCA.

PURSUANT MY SUGGESTION VIOSCA WILL ATTEMPT TO HAVE INTERNAL REVENUE  
AGENTS SUBMIT ~~THE~~ DETAILED REPORTS.

IN CONNECTION WITH MAIL FRAUD CASE, IT APPEARS THAT THE ENTIRE CASE  
SO FAR IS ~~THE~~ FOUNDED UPON ORAL INFORMATION AND SOME INVESTIGATION BY  
VARIOUS AGENCIES. VIOSCA SUBPOENAED J EMORY ADAMS, L CHLESAGE, F  
E AMES, MONTE HART AND OTHERS BEFORE THE GRAND JURY AFTER  
HAVING THEM SIGN WAIVERS AND IT ~~IS~~ IS UPON THE TESTIMONY OF THESE  
INDIVIDUALS THAT IS HIS BASIS OF THE MAIL FRAUD CASE. HE ALSO HAD  
INTERNAL REVENUE AGENTS TAKE WRITTEN STATEMENTS FROM THESE WITNESSES

82

PAGE THREE

WHICH APPARENTLY HAVE NOT YET BEEN WRITTEN UP OR MADE AVAILABLE TO VIOSCA. VIOSCA HAS HAD INTERNAL REVENUE AGENTS CHECK ON THE MAIL FRAUD CASE FACTS IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR INCOME TAX INVESTIGATION BUT DOES NOT KNOW THE RESULTS OF THEIR FINDINGS. PURSUANT MY SUGGESTION VIOSCA REQUESTED INTERNAL REVENUE AGENTS TO IMMEDIATELY WRITE UP EVERYTHING THEY HAVE DONE ~~XXX~~ IN FORM OF MEMORANDA IF THEY CANNOT WRITE REPORTS AND SUBMIT IT TO HIM. I WILL OBTAIN COPIES THEREOF WHICH SHOULD BE AVAILABLE TOMORROW. VIOSCA HAD INTERNAL REVENUE AGENTS THIS AFTERNOON QUESTION SEYMOUR WEISS IN NEW YORK REGARDING THE RECEIPT BY WEISS OF SIXTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM ~~HART~~ WHICH WAS A PART OF THE SEVENTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS INVOLVED IN THE MAIL FRAUD SCHEME. VIOSCA DOES NOT KNOW THE DETAILS OF THE POST OFFICE INSPECTORS INVESTIGATIONS IN BATON ROUGE REGARDING THE MAIL FRAUD CASE AND ~~MY~~ YESTERDAY SENT HIS ASSISTANT HERBERT CHRISTENBERRY TO BATON ROUGE TO FIND OUT WHAT THE INSPECTORS ARE DOING AND TO COLLECT THE NECESSAR EVIDENCE IN BATON ROUGE RELATIVE TO THE MAIL FRAUD SCHEME. POST OFFICE INSPECTORS HAVE NOT SUBMITTED ANY REPORTS EITHER ORAL OR WRITTEN TO VIOSCA AND APPARENTLY ARE MAKING A GENERAL INVESTIGATION OF ALL OF SMITHS ACTIVITIES IN THE HOPE



PAGE FOUR

OF UNCOVERING MAIL FRAUD VIOLATIONS. THIS CONFIRMS MY SUSPICIONS THAT THESE INSPECTORS ARE ACTUALLY WORKING FOR THE BENEFIT OF J FAIR HARDIN.

PURSUANT TO MY REQUEST ASSISTANT US ATTORNEY HUBERT WILL PREPARE A BRIEF SOMEWHAT SIMILAR I HOPE TO OUR SUMMARY REPORTS, SETTING OUT IN DETAIL JUST WHAT THE SCHEME TO DEFRAUD WAS AND THE NECESSARY WITNESSES TO PROVE SAME, TOGETHER WITH THE TESTIMONY OF EACH, AND ALSO HOW THE MAILED WERE USED AND THE NECESSARY WITNESSES IN THAT REGARD. HE WILL HAVE TO ~~OBTAIN~~ OBTAIN THIS INFORMATION FROM THE VARIOUS INVESTIGATIVE AGENCIES AND THE TESTIMONY OF THE INDIVIDUALS BEFORE THE GRAND JURY, BUT THIS IS THE ONLY WAY I KNOW OF OF GETTING A CONCRETE PICTURE OF JUST WHAT THE VIOLATION CONSISTS OF AND WHAT EVIDENCE THERE IS TO PROVE SAME.

PURSUANT MY REQUEST THE BALANCE OF THE TESTIMONY TAKEN BEFORE THE GRAND JURY, WHICH IS QUITE VOLUMINOUS, AND HAS NOT YET BEEN WRITTEN UP IS BEING WRITTEN UP IMMEDIATELY AND I WILL OBTAIN A COPY OF SUCH TRANSCRIPT. I WILL THEN HAVE OUR AGENTS DIGEST SAME AND SUBMIT TO YOU IN SUMMARY FORM THE SUBSTANCE OF SUCH TESTIMONY. I

94

PAGE FIVE

WILL ALSO SEND YOU COPIES OF THE WPA AFFIDAVITS AND REPORTS AS I RECEIVE THEM FROM VIOSCA.

THERE APPARENTLY IS UTTER LACK OF ORGANIZATION IN VIOSCAS OFFICE, THE VARIOUS ASSISTANTS WORKING ON PET THEORIES OR DIFFERENT ANGLES OF THE INQUIRY WITHOUT ANY APPARENT COORDINATION. VIOSCA IS NOT VIGOROUS OR FORCEFUL ENOUGH TO TAKE THE LEAD IN ANYTHING, BUT IS WILLING TO FOLLOW ANY SUGGESTION. ~~IT~~ IT IS MY BELIEF THAT A VIGOROUS AND FORCEFUL PERSON CAPABLE OF COORDINATING THE FUNCTIONS OF THE US ATTORNEYS OFFICE AND INSISTING UPON EXPEDITIOUS AND COMPLETE COOPERATION AND WORK OF THE FEDERAL AGENCIES INVESTIGATING THE MATTERS, IS URGENTLY NEEDED TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE SITUATION AT VIOSCAS OFFICE.

SACKETT

END

OK FB I WASH DC BRN

95

JLB:MC

RECORDED

62-32509-152

July 17, 1939

Special Agent in Charge  
New Orleans, Louisiana

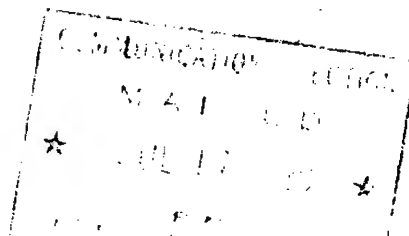
Dear Sir:

For your information, there are transmitted herewith copies of a letter, dated July 3, 1939, addressed to the Attorney General, by Mr. A. Pickus, President, Majestic Oil Corporation, 2455 West Third Street, Cleveland, Ohio, which was forwarded to the Bureau by the Department.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosure



Department of Justice  
Office of the Assistant to the Attorney General  
Washington

July 10, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER, DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

It has occurred to me that you might wish to have the attached correspondence from Mr. A. Pickus, President, Majestic Oil Corporation, Cleveland, Ohio, for consideration in connection with the current investigation in Louisiana.

*Matthew F. McGuire*  
Matthew F. McGuire  
Acting Assistant to the Attorney General

RECORDED & INDEXED

11 3207-154
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 19 1939
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

91

COPY

MAJESTIC OIL CORPORATION

2455 West Third Street  
Cleveland, Ohio

BM FSK:rf  
36-667

July 3, 1939

Attorney General Frank Murphy  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

RE: Reorganization of the Louisiana Oil Refining  
Corporation and Louisiana Oil Corporation.

Dear Mr. Murphy:

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-32509-15

Please have this in mind that Mr. Henry L. Dougherty and his schemers have loaded dice. They think that every person has his price. If \$10,000 won't do the trick then \$25,000 or more will do it. He has succeeded so well in the past that he and his gang stole enough from the American people to pay all the conniving lawyers who control our weak judges to put the shady deals over for them.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

19 1939

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Henry L. Dougherty deserves a monument to be built for him next to Washington—he is a master mind. He proved how he can get away with hundred of millions of dollars through scheming and still be a fine gentleman. The system must be changed so a man like Dougherty is eliminated.

District Attorney Fields for the Western District of Louisiana.

I talked to him long-distance from Cleveland, December 1938, and he made an appointment for me to see him in Shreveport, Louisiana. I made this trip to see him but when I arrived he would not see me. I was told in Shreveport that he is a "cheap politician."

It is about time that the ninety six District Attorneys in the United States are carefully scrutinized and investigated and the great majority of them relieved of their duties.

You will have to get new brooms in order to sweep clean. By this, I mean you will have to replace all the political stooges in the Justice Department before you can reach Mr. Henry L. Dougherty and conniving judges like Judge Manton.

Very respectfully,

/s/ A. Pickus

AP/

96



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

AC:RLA

July 17, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

Time: 8:00 P.M.

Agent Shivers called from New Orleans and reported that the last edition of the "New Orleans State" contained the following headlines: "U. S. Indicts Five. Murphy, G-Man Chief Come in for Probe"; then type under that reads, "United States Attorney General, Frank Murphy and Edgar Hoover, Chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Will Arrive in New Orleans, Tuesday Morning to Personally Take Charge of Wide Spread Investigation, Now Being Conducted in Louisiana by the Government." Mr. Shivers stated that this was all the papers had related in this connection, and as yet had been unable to find the source of their information; however, he did hear from the United Press, who understood that the State had received information that reservations had been made at the St. Charles Hotel for the Attorney General and the Director, which, of course, is not true.

Agent Shivers advised that he had made inquiry of the Assistant Manager at the St. Charles Hotel, as to what he had in the way of a suite and in the way of accommodations, and I told the Assistant Manager that it might be possible in the near future, without indicating any time, that the Attorney General and Mr. Hoover might come to New Orleans. This was strictly in confidence and the Assistant Manager at the Hotel says that positively he did not give out any information. The Assistant Manager related that after the story came out in the paper, the United Press and Associated Press called and wanted to know if Mr. Hoover or the Attorney General had a reservation at his hotel, and he informed them that he did not have and were not expected there so far as he knew.

Agent Shivers said he did not know what information had been given out from Washington, or what instructions Mr. Rogge had received in this regard, as he has not been able to get in touch with him. Shivers is desirous of learning the authenticity of the report, and requested that Mr. Hoover be advised of this information.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Respectfully,

A. Cornelius

A. Cornelius  
Chief Supervisor

100-32509-151
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 18 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

100-32509-151

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
**Washington, D. C.**

EAT:GVC

July 17, 1939

Time: 9:40 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

I called Special Agent Shivers in New Orleans and told him that you had not made any plans to go to New Orleans, although there was a possibility that the Attorney General had announced that both of you were going to New Orleans. I also told Mr. Shivers if the Attorney General had made such an announcement that you had not been advised of it.

I instructed Mr. Shivers to make no comment on this matter to the press.

Respectfully,

*EAT*  
E. A. TAMM

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RECORDED

62-32529-1510  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JUL 19 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COLSON  
HOOVER

July 17, 1939

Version  
Time 1:00 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. Tamm

Re: Louisiana Situation

I telephoned Robert Shivers to advise him that the Attorney General had instructed Mr. Rogge that under no circumstances were any indictments to be returned until the Attorney General had approved, which was the same understanding that the Attorney General had with United States Attorney Fioscoe. Agent Shivers stated that they intended to have the indictments returned today.

I instructed Agent Shivers to keep in very close touch with this situation and try to find out whether they have grounds for a mail fraud case. Agent Shivers stated that from his conversation with Mr. Rogge, they do not have much more evidence than what is contained in the summary report which Agent Weeks made on July 14th. Agent Shivers and I both agreed that this did not appear to be very strong evidence. I stated that we must watch this case for to indict Seymour Weiss will be a terrific fight and we must be prepared as there is no doubt that he is guilty.

Agent Shivers stated he would keep me in close touch with this and advise me immediately of any new developments.

Very truly yours,

RECORDED

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

62-32509-149

JUL 18 1939

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED

★ JUL 17 1939 ★

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 5-162-76

101

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Record of Telephone Call or Visitor.

July 17 1939.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Time 4:15 PM

Name Mr. Shivers

New Orleans

Referred to

Details:

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUL 19 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Crowl  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Foxworth  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. McIntire  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Schilderker  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Beahm  
Miss Gandy

The following message was taken:  
The indictments were just returned against  
Seymour Weiss, Monte Hart, James Munroe Smith,  
Henry Adams and Louis LeSage; that the A. G.  
authorized Rogge and Viosca to go ahead; that  
it was imperative that the indictments be  
returned today since the Grand Jurors wanted to  
return the indictments and because the Judge  
was leaving the city until Friday and if the  
indictments were not returned today they would  
have to wait until Friday; that the conclusion  
had been reached that some action was necessary  
to prevent creating the impression that the  
Grand Jury was just engaged in a "white-wash".  
Mr. Shivers stated that the bond was set at  
\$10,000 each; that the newspapers were furnish-  
ed with a copy of the indictment and would  
be on the streets with the story immediately.

cbs.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 8 1939

WESTERN UNION

DECODED COPY

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Coffey	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Crowl	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Lester	✓
Mr. Lawler	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sears	✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

WH 46 21 GOVT COLLECT

PHILADELPHIA PENN JUL 8 1939

DIRECTOR FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U S DEPT OF JUSTICE

JAMES ANTHONY MURPHY INFORMATION CONCERNING CANNOT IDENTIFY  
ON AVAILABLE INFORMATION ADDITIONAL INQUIRY TO BE MADE  
WHEN PUBLIC RECORDS AVAILABLE MONDAY.

FLETCHER

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

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162-65X

62	14
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JUL 11 1939	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TAMM	TWO



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 11 1939

TELETYPE

RECORDED

INDEXED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUL - 15 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. Nathan ✓  
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓  
Mr. Clegg ✓  
Mr. Coffey ✓  
Mr. Egan ✓  
Mr. Glavin ✓  
Mr. Crowl ✓  
Mr. Harbo ✓  
Mr. Lester ✓  
Mr. Lawler ✓  
Mr. Nichols ✓  
Mr. Rosen ✓  
Mr. Sears ✓  
Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓  
Mr. Tracy ✓  
Miss Gandy ✓

FBI NEW ORLEANS 7-11-39 5-05 PM

DIRECTOR

RE LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS INFORMATION CONCERNING. THIS AFTERNOON STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL ELLISON AND HIS SPECIAL ASSISTANT, J. FAIR HARDIN, CONFERRED WITH USA VIOSCA AT NEW ORLEANS IN AN EFFORT TO OBTAIN INFORMATION FROM VIOSCA CONCERNING RESULTS FEDERAL INVESTIGATIONS. VIOCA DID NOT GIVE THEM ANY INFORMATION. FROM INFORMATION FURNISHED BY JM. FAIR HARDIN TO VIOSCA, IT APPEARS THERE MAY BE GOOD MAIL FRAUD CASE IN CONNECTION WITH SALE OF BIENVILLE HOTEL TO LUXX LSU DURING WHICH SEVENTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS WAS PAID THREE INDIVIDUALS ALLEGEDLY AS COMMISSIONS. THIS MAIL FRAUD POSSIBILITY IS PRESENTLY UNDER INVESTIGATION BY POST OFFICE INSPECTORS AND IF IT DEVELOPS INTO A CASE WOULD PROBABLY INVOLVE J. EMORY ADAMS, MONTE HART, LEWIS LESAGE, WHO IS A CONTACT MAN FOR STANDARD OIL COMPANY AND POSSIBLY JAMES MONROE SMITH. THE POST OFFICE INSPECTORS INVESTIGATION HAS NOT YET REACHED A POINT WHERE AVAILABLE EVIDENCE IS KNOWN. J. FAIR HARDIN IS ACTIVELY TAKING LEAD AS STATE PROSECUTOR AND IS ACTIVELY HANDLING GRAND JURY AT BATON ROUGE. HE IS GETTING READY TO RETURN ABOUT THIRTY INDICTMENTS AGAINST JAMES MONROE SMITH MAINLY CHARGING FORGERY OF LSU BONDS. U. S. ATTORNEYS OFFICE EXPECTS TO HAVE SOME WPA IRREGULARITY INDICTMENTS RETURNED SOMETIME NEXT WEEK.

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170 SEP 17 1964

COPIES DESTROYED

104

PAGE TWO

HAVING RECEIVED PRELIMINARY REPORT IN FORM OF SIGNED STATEMENTS TAKEN  
BY <sup>WPA</sup> INVESTIGATIONS OF PERSONS INTERVIEWED. NO OTHER DEVELOPMENTS  
TODAY

SACKETT

SECOND WORD SECOND LINE WPA

END

ACK PLS

OK FBI WASH DC JAR

V

105